

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

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§ 3420.4-3 Consultation with Governors.

(a) The Secretary shall consult the Governor of the state in which any tract proposed for sale is located. The Secretary shall give the Governor 30 days to comment before adopting a regional lease sale schedule or, for lease applications, before publishing a notice of sale for any tract within the State.

(b) When a tract proposed for lease sale within the boundaries of a National Forest would, if leased, be mined by surface mining methods, the Governor of the state in which the land to be leased is located shall be so notified by the Secretary. If the Governor fails to object to the lease sale proposal in 60 days, the Secretary may publish a notice of sale, including that tract. If, within the 60 day period, the Governor, in writing, objects to the lease sale proposal, the Secretary may not publish a notice of sale for that tract. Publication of the notice of sale shall be held in abeyance for 6 months from the date that the Governor objects. The Governor may, during this six-month period, submit a written statement of reasons why the tract should not be proposed for lease sale, and the Secretary shall, on the basis of this statement, reconsider the lease sale proposal.

(c) Before determining whether to conduct a lease sale, the Secretary shall seek the recommendation of the Governor of the State(s) in which the lands proposed to be offered for lease are located as to whether or not to lease such lands and what alternative actions are available and what special conditions could be added to the proposed lease(s) to mitigate impacts. The Secretary shall accept the recommendations of the Governor(s) if he determines that they provide for a reasonable balance between the national interest and the State's interests. The Secretary shall communicate to the Governor(s) in writing and publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER the reasons for his determination to accept or reject such Governor's recommendations.

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979. Redesignated and amended at 47 FR 33139, July 30, 1982; 48 FR 37655, Aug. 19, 1983]

§ 3420.4-4 Consultation with Indian tribes.

The Secretary shall consult with any Indian tribe which may be affected by the adoption of the proposed regional lease sale schedule. The Secretary shall give the tribe 30 days in which to comment prior to adopting a lease sale schedule.

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979. Redesignated and amended at 47 FR 33139, July 30, 1982]

§ 3420.4-5 Consultation with the Attorney General.

The Secretary shall consult with and give due consideration to the advice of the Attorney General before the adoption of the proposed regional lease sale schedule. The Secretary shall provide 30 days in which the Attorney General may advise the Secretary prior to adopting a lease schedule.

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979. Redesignated and amended at 47 FR 33139, July 30, 1982]

§ 3420.5 Adoption of final regional lease sale schedule.

§ 3420.5-1 Announcement.

Following completion of the requirements of §§ 3420.3 and 3420.4 of this title, the Secretary shall announce the adoption of a final regional lease sale schedule. The announcement shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and contain a legal description of each tract included in the lease sale schedule and the date when each tract has been tentatively scheduled for sale. Notice of this announcement shall be published in at least 1 newspaper of general distribution in each state within the region for which the regional lease sale schedule is adopted.

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979. Redesignated and amended at 47 FR 33139, July 30, 1982]

§ 3420.5-2 Revision.

(a) The Secretary may revise either the list of tracts included in the schedule or the timing of the lease sales in accordance with any alternatives which were considered in the regional lease sale environmental impact statement and during consultation under § 3420.4 of this title. BLM will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER and provide a 30-day comment period before

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it makes any revision increasing the number or frequency of sales, or the amount of coal offered. BLM will publish any revision in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) Any regional lease sale schedule may be updated or replaced as a result of a new regional tract ranking, selection, and scheduling effort conducted in accordance with the provisions of § 3420.3-4 of this title.

[44 FR 42615, July 19, 1979. Redesignated and amended at 47 FR 33140, July 30, 1982; 64 FR 52243, Sept. 28, 1999]

§ 3420.6 Reoffer of tracts not sold in previous regional lease sales.

Following the offering of tracts in accordance with the procedures outlined in §§ 3420.2, 3420.3, 3420.4 and 3420.5, any tracts not sold in accordance with the above listed provisions may be reoffered for sale by the Department provided a lease sale schedule has been reviewed by the regional coal team and, after consultation with the Governor, adopted by the Secretary. Provisions of subpart 3422 shall apply to these tracts.

[48 FR 37655, Aug. 19, 1983]

Subpart 3422—Lease Sales

§ 3422.1 Fair market value and maximum economic recovery.

(a) Not less than 30 days prior to the publication of a notice of sale, the Secretary shall solicit public comments on fair market value (FMV) appraisal and the maximum economic recovery (MER) of the tract or tracts proposed to be offered and on factors that may affect these 2 determinations. BLM will publish the solicitation in the FEDERAL REGISTER and at least once per week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the sale. Proprietary data marked as confidential may be submitted to the Bureau of Land Management in response to the solicitation of public comments. Data so marked shall be treated in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the confidentiality of such information.

(b) The authorized officer shall prepare a written report containing information on the mining method evaluation, estimated coal reserves by bed,

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coal quality assessment, royalty and lease bond recommendations and an evaluation of the public comments on the FMV and MER.

(c)(1) The authorized officer shall not accept any bid that is less than the fair market value as determined by the Department.

(2) Minimum bids shall be set on a regional basis and may be expressed in either dollars-per-acre or cents-per-ton. In no case shall the minimum bid be less than \$100 per acre or its equivalent in cents-per-ton.

[47 FR 33140, July 30, 1982, as amended at 50 FR 8626, Mar. 4, 1985; 51 FR 18888, May 23, 1986; 64 FR 52243, Sept. 28, 1999]

§ 3422.2 Notice of sale and detailed statement.

(a) Prior to the lease sale, the authorized officer shall publish a notice of the proposed sale in the FEDERAL REGISTER and in a newspaper(s) of general circulation in the county or equivalent political subdivision in which the tracts to be sold are situated. The newspaper notice shall be published not less than once a week for 3 consecutive weeks. BLM will post notice of the sale in BLM State Office where the coal lands are managed. BLM will also mail notice to any surface owner of lands noticed for sale and to any other person who has requested notice of sales in the area. The lease sale shall not be held until at least 30 days after such posting in the State Office.

(b) The notice shall:

(1) List the time and place of sale, the type of sale, bidding method, rental, and the description of the tract(s) being offered and the minimum bid(s) to be considered;

(2) Contain a description of the coal resources to be offered; and

(3) Contain information on where a detailed statement of the terms and conditions of the lease(s) which may result from the lease sale may be obtained.

(c) The detailed statement of the terms and conditions of the lease(s) offered and bidding instructions for sale shall:

(1) Contain an explanation of the manner in which the bids may be submitted;